To: Shapiro, Mike[Shapiro.Mike@epa.gov]; Grevatt, Peter[Grevatt.Peter@epa.gov]; Clark, Becki[Clark.Becki@epa.gov]
Cc: Allgeier, Steve[Allgeier.Steve@epa.gov]
From: Travers, David
Sent: Fri 1/10/2014 5:51:05 PM
Subject: FW: EOC Spot Report: Chemical Spill, Charleston WV – Update #2
R3_Chemical Spill_Charleston WV_Update_2_1_10_2014.docx

All, below is the latest summary of the chemical spill in WV. The only two items of note not covered: Region 3 has reached out to Steve Allgeier for technical assistance on treatment options (the water desk is not activated in the EOC). NRWA has arranged to ship bottled water into the area.

From: Eoc, Epahq
Sent: Friday, January 10, 2014 11:00 AM
To: Eoc, Epahq
Subject: EOC Spot Report: Chemical Spill, Charleston WV – Update #2

This report is being sent as a bcc to prevent accidental Reply to All messages.

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EOC Spot Report: Chemical Spill, Charleston WV – Update #2

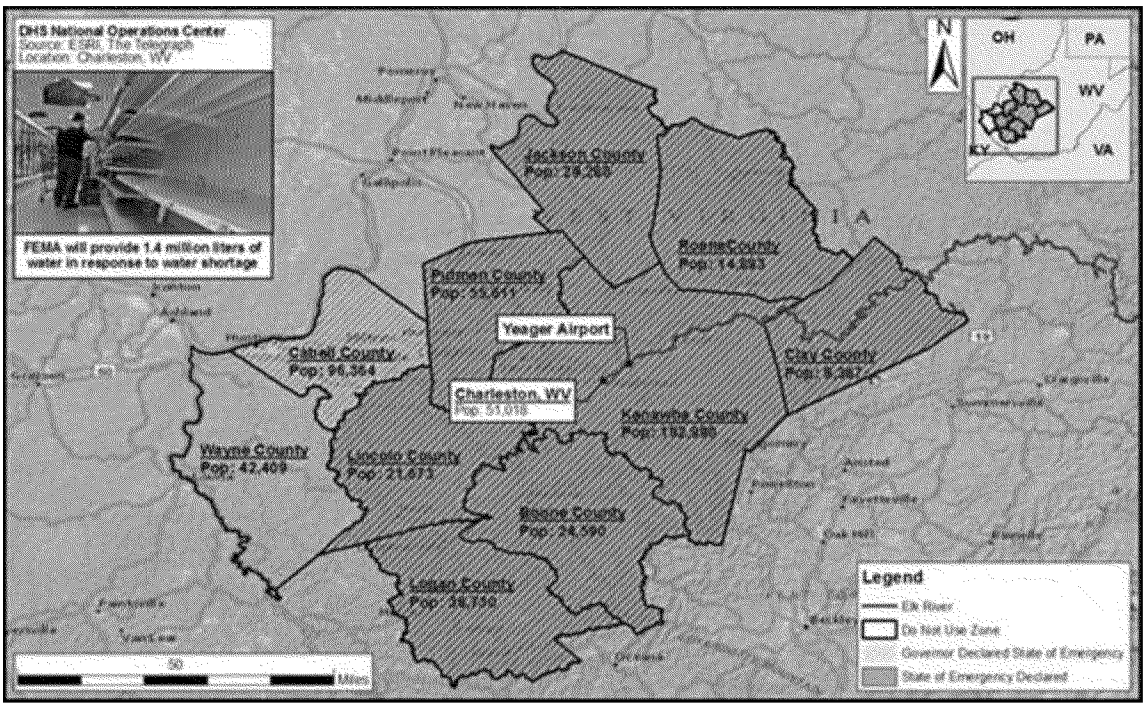
US Environmental Protection Agency

Report as of 1100 January 10, 2014

Overview: On January 10, the President approved an Emergency Declaration for the State of West Virginia after a chemical leaked through a secondary containment area at a Freedom Industries chemical plant and into the Elk River in Charleston, WV (pop. 51,018) (NRC#1070627.). The chemical (4-methycyclohexane methanol) is a flammable solvent used in the coal preparation process and is an irritant to eyes, respiratory system, and skin. The West Virginia Office of Environmental Health Services (OEHS) estimates no more than 5,000 gallons of chemical leaked in the Elk River. Based on river flow dilution, officials calculate the chemical concentration in the water to be well below the CDC declared safe level. A statement from West Virginia American Water said the company is monitoring the water. The spill occurred near the Kanawha Valley Water Treatment Plant. The Kanawha Valley Water Treatment Plant detected the chemical even after the increased carbon treatment effort was put in place. Freedom Industries is working to clean up the spill at the facility and in the river.

The Elk River is an area that has been designated a "Critical Habitat" for the Diamond Darter which is a freshwater fish listed as an endangered species. Located about 30 miles to the southeast of Charleston are the Gauley River National Recreation Area and the New River Gorge National River. As of this morning, there have been no reported impacts to these areas at this time.

State, Local and other Federal Agency Actions: West Virginia water authorities have issued a "Do Not Use Water Notice" for 10 counties (Kanawha, Boone, Putnam, Lincoln, Logan, Clay, Roane, Jackson Cabell and Wayne) and the President's Emergency Declaration covers eight counties (Kanawha, Boone, Putnam, Lincoln, Logan, Clay, Roane, and Jackson). A shelter-in-place was not launched for the area at this time, but residents are urged to stay inside. WVAW customers are told not to use tap water for drinking, cooking, washing, or bathing. Water can be used for toilets and fire emergencies. Boiling water will not get rid of the chemical. This is believed to impact 100,000 customers (300,000 people). Schools in 7 of the affected counties will be closed Friday 1/10/2014.



The West Virginia Emergency Operations Center is fully activated and the state has activated their Health Operations Center. The FEMA Region III Regional Response Coordination Center (RRCC) is activated to Level II (Partial) and the FEMA Region III Liaison Officer and Incident Management Assistance Team have been deployed.

FEMA reports that initial shipments of drinking water will begin arriving this morning.

The IMAAC was activated and produced a modeling product which has been shared with the RRCC.

EPA Actions: An EPA OSC is en route to the WV EOC. A mission assignment has been issued to staff the ESF-10 desk Regional Response Coordination Center (RRCC) in Philadelphia; a R3 representative is staffing that desk.

Media Interest: High

http://usnews.nbcnews.com/_news/2014/01/09/22245996-west-virginia-chemical-spill-cuts-water-to-up-to-300000-state-of-emergency-declared?lite

http://www.foxnews.com/us/2014/01/10/west-virginia-chemical-spill-gov-declares-emergency/

http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/sns-rt-us-usa-westvirginia-spill-20140109,0,5360274.story

The HQ EOC will continue to monitor and provided updates as needed.

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U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

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